Message Text

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ACTION ARA-20

INFO OCT-01 ISO-00 CIAE-00 DODE-00 PM-07 H-03 INR-10 L-03

NSAE-00 NSC-07 PA-04 RSC-01 PRS-01 SP-03 SS-20

USIA-15 OMB-01 DRC-01 SCCT-02 SNM-02 DEAE-00 AID-20

JUSE-00 IO-14 SCI-06 SY-04 TRSE-00 /145 W $\,$

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FM AMEMBASSY MEXICO

TO SECSTATE WASHDC 2675

INFO AMEMBASSY BUENOS AIRES

AMEMBASSY SANTIAGO

AMCONSUL CIUDAD JUAREZ UNN

AMCONSUL GUADALAJARA UNN

AMCONSUL HERMOSILLO UNN

AMCONSUL MATAMOROS UNN

AMCONSUL MAZATLAN UNN

AMCONSUL MERIDA UNN

AMCONSUL MONTERREY UNN

AMCONSUL NUEVO LAREDO UNN

AMCONSUL TIJUANA UNN

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E.O. 11652: GDS

TAGS: PINT PINS PFOR SNAR MX

SUBJECT: MONTHLY POLITICAL HIGHLIGHTS--JUNE 1974

REF: MEXICO 4600 (NOTAL)

1. THIS TELEGRAM, SECOND IN AN EXPERIMENTAL SERIES, TREATS POLITICAL DEVELOPMENTS IN MEXICO DURING MONTH OF JUNE 1974. IN ATTEMPT TO MAINTAIN RELATIVELY NARROW FOCUS OF THIS REPORT, THERE IS NO DISCUSSION OF OTHER SIGNIFICANT DEVELOPMENTS.-MOST OF THEM ALREADY REPORTED AT LENGTH--WHICH ALSO DREW CONSIDERABLE ATTENTION DURING MONTH: MEETING IN MEXICO CITY JUNE 10-29 OF UNCTAD WORKING GROUP ON MEXICAN-CONFIDENTIAL

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PROPOSED CHARTER OF ECONOMIC RIGHTS AND DUTIES OF STATES;

BILATERAL CIVIL AIR NEGOTIATIONS IN WASHINGTON; AND GOM 14-POINT PLAN TO STEM INFLATION ANNOUNCED JUNE 24 AT MEETING OF NATIONAL TRIPARTITE COMMISSION (SEE MEXICO 5444). INTERNAL.

- 2. FIGUEROA REMAINS UNACCOUNTED FOR: THE CONTINUING CASE OF SEN. RUBEN FIGUEROA DEMONATED THE POLITICAL SCENE DURING THE MONTH. THE SENATOR, WHO WAS IN PROCESS OF BEING NOMINATED AS RULING PRI'S CANDIDATE FOR GOVERNOR OF GUERRERO FOR 1975-81 TERM, FELL INTO A TRAP MAY 30 WHEN AT HIS OWN INITIATIVE HE WENT OFF TO HILL COUNTRY OF GUERRERO TO NEGOTIATE WITH (AND PROBABLY OFFER "AMNESTY" TO) GUERRILLA LEADER LUCIO CABANAS BARRIENTOS. WHEN A THIRD COMMUNIQUE FROM CABANAS CAME TO LIGHT ON JUNE 25 WITH WHAT WERE GENERALLY CONSIDERED OUTRAGEOUS DEMANDS OF THE GOM. THE ATTORNEY GENERAL ANNOUNCED THAT THE GOM WOULD NOT NEGOTIATE WITH CABANAS. SIMULTANEOUSLY, AG REVEALED THAT PRES. ECHEVERRIA HAD ORDERED A LARGE-SCALE MILITARY OPERATION "TO RESCUE FIGUEROA AND HIS PARTY" AND, CLEARLY, TO DO AWAY WITH CABANAS IN ANY EVENT. AT LEAST FOUR MEXICAN ARMY BATTALIONS BEGAN COMING AN AREA ABOUT TEN KM. NE OF TOWN OF TECPAN(OR 90 KM, NW OF ACAPULCO) BUT HAD TO CONTEND WITH DIFFICULT TERRAIN AND BAD WEATHER. THROUGH END OF JUNE, AND TO DATE, NO POSITIVE RESULTS HAVE BEEN REPORTED (MEXICO 5524 AND PREVIOUS). MEANWHILE, PRI STATE ORGANIZATION IN GUERRERO WENT AHEAD AND ON JUNE 23 FORMALLY NOMINATED FIGUEROA IN ABSENTIA. PREOCCUPATION WITH FIGUEROA CASE CAUSED PARTY TO DEFER INTO JULY ITS SELECTION OF A GUBERNATORIAL CANDIDATE FOR NEIGHBORING STATE OF PUEBLA. SIGNIFICANT INCIDENTS OF POLICITCALLY MOTIVATED VIOLENCE OCCURRED ELSEWHERE. NOTABLY IN GUADALAJARA AND MAZATLAN. BILATERAL
- 3. RABASA FRONT-PAGES BRACERO ISSUE: FONSEC RABASA ON JUNE 19 SPOTLIGHTED ISSUE OF MEXICAN ILLEGAL ENTRANTS INTO US AND AGAIN INSISTED ON NEED FOR NEW BRACERO PROGRAM IN FIRST-PERSON NOTE TO EMBASSY. FONSEC HAD PREVIOUSLY INFORMED AMBASSADOR THAT NOTE WAS FORTHCOMING AND EXPLAINED IT AS ATTEMPT TO QUELL ATTACKS ON HIM BECAUSE CONFIDENTIAL

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OF GOM POLICY TOWARD CHILE (AIMED AT RAPPROCHEMENT) AND BECAUSE OF CHARGES THAT FONSEC WAS "CREATURE OF KISSINGER." FONSEC ISSUED PRESS RELEASE WHEN NOTE DELIVERED CONTAINING ALL IMPORTANT DETAILS OF NOTE. PRESS RESPONSE WAS GENERALLY BUT NOT UNANIMOUSLY FAVORABLE TO RABASA'S INITIATIVE, AND IN ANY EVENT ISSUE FADED FROM FRONT PAGES AFTER FIRST DAY. (WITHIN THE WEEK, SENSATIONAL PRESS WAS HEADLINING RABASA STATEMENT "I AM NOT RESIGNING."). MORE

THOUGHTFUL COLUMINSTS PERSISTED IN SEEING BOTH SIDES OF BRACERO ISSUE, RECOGNIZING THAT ONLY REAL SOLUTION IS CREATION OF MORE EMPLOYMENT OPPORTUNITIES IN MEXICO.

4. NARCOTICS: PARTLY AS AN OUTGROWTH OF TALKS HELD IN EARLY MAY WITH AMBASSADOR VANCE (S/NM) AND DEA ADMINISTRATOR BARTELS, ATTORNEY GENERAL PEDRO OJEDA PAULLADA ON JUNE 24 SIGNED LETTERS OF AGREEMENT WITH AMBASSADOR JOVA PROVIDING FOR THREE FURTHER USG INPUTS INTO THE COOPERATIVE NARCOTICS PROGRAM. THE THREE AGREEMENTS ARE THAT THE USG WILL (A) SUPPLY TECHNICAL, OPERATIONAL, MATERIAL AND TRAINING SUPPORT FOR "COMPASS TRIP", A SPECIAL PHOTOGRAPHIC TECHNIQUE TO LOCATE OPIUM POPPY FIELDS; (B) REIMBURSE THE GOM FOR THE COST OF FUEL CONSUMED DURING THE ANTI-NARCOTICS CAMPAIGN AND PROVIDE TWO TECHNICAL CONSULTANTS FOR HELICOPTERS; AND (C) PROVIDE TWO NEW BELL 206 HELICOPTERS TO REPLACE ONES DESTROYED. TOTAL COST TO THE USG OF THE THREE PROGRAMS IS ABOUT \$1.1 MILLION.

EXTERNAL

5. CUBAN CABINET MINISTER VISITS: MINISTER OF EDUCATION MAJ. JOSE RAMON FERNANDEZ ALVAREZ ARRIVED MEXICO CITY JUNE 24 FOR STAY OF SEVERAL DAYS, CONTINUING A RECENT EXCHANGE OF HIGH-LEVEL VISITS BETWEEN THE TWO COUNTRIES (MEXICO 5384). AFTER FIVE-HOUR MEETING WITH ECHEVERRIA, FERNANDEZ ANNOUNCED THAT MEXICAN PRESIDENT WOULD VISIT CUBA AT DATE STILL TO BE DECIDED (BUT EVIDENTLY LATE 1974 OR EARLY 1975).

6. ARGENTINE AMBASSADOR CAMPORA RESIGNS: EX-PRESIDENT HECTOR CAMPROA, A FLAMBOYANT AND MUCH-PUBLICIZED FIGURE SINCE HIS ARRIVAL HERE LAST DECEMBER, RETURNED CONFIDENTIAL

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ABRUPTLY TO BUENOS AIRES IN LATE JUNE. ALTHOUGH THERE ARE ARGENTINE REPORTS THAT CAMPORA WAS GUILTY OF "OUTRAGEOUS" BEHAVIOR IN MEXICO (BUENOS AIRES 4852: MEXICO 5541), WE CANNOT SUBSTANTIATE THE CHARGES. WE ARE OBLIGED TO SPECULATE THAT CAMPORA'S RETURN HOME WAS PROMPTED BY WORD OF GRAVITY OF PERON'S CONDITION AND DESIRE TO HAVE A PIECE OF THE POST-MORTEM ACTION. INDEED, ANNOUNCEMENT FROM B.A. AT MONTH'S END (AS REPORTED HERE) SAID CAMPORA HAD RESIGNED IN ORDER TO DEVOTE HIMSELF TO ARGENTINE POLITICS.

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